

Indiana State Sentinel.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

INDIANAPOLIS, NOV. 25, 1846.

Our Terms.

The following will be the permanent terms of the *Indiana State Sentinel*:
One copy, one year, in advance, \$2.00
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Tri-weekly Sentinel.

As customary, the proprietors of the *Indiana State Sentinel* will issue a tri-weekly sheet during the coming session of the Legislature. The best of Reports have been engaged exclusively for this paper, and no pains will be spared to give the fullest, earliest and most correct intelligence on all subjects. The paper will be of double medium size, (same as the weekly) and affixed at one dollar the session, in all cases in advance.

The proprietors would respectfully solicit the aid of their friends in procuring subscribers, as a very heavy expense is necessarily involved during the session.

Our contemporaries will confer a favor by reciprocating the above a few insertions, which shall be reciprocated by every means in our power.

G. A. & J. P. CHAPMAN.

THE GRAIN CROP—FOREIGN MARKET.—The Cincinnati Advertiser thinks it may be safely set down that the product of the grains in the several States was this year not less than 800,000,000 bushels. The population is about 20,000,000. They must be supported from this yield—but will each man, woman and child consume forty bushels? Add the sustenance of horses, cattle, hogs, &c., and we will agree that possibly one-half of the entire harvest will be consumed. Then for the balance, where but to a foreign demand can it go. It cannot be sold and bought here, for the "Home Market" is filled. The ports of Britain are opened to it—the people are starving for it—the prices offered justify its export—and there only must it go. It is going, and in mountain quantities—the effect produced on prices is seen and felt everywhere. Any school-boy, with his slate and pencil, can calculate how much the producers are profited by this demand and the consequent increased price. It will not fall under one hundred millions of dollars. As a contemporary remarks: "For this we are indebted to commerce—to comparative freedom of trade. And yet there are not wanting those who are continually decriing the foreign market for our produce, and shouting for the 'home market.'" After thirty years of high tariffs, and all the home market thereby produced, what would the price of flour be now, were it not for the demand for exportation? Not four dollars a barrel; perhaps not \$3.50. The home market we shall have at any rate. Americans will eat, whether manufacturers, mechanics, sailors, or gentlemen. But after all their eating, prices, in a fruitful year, like the present, will be extremely low, unless exhausted by the demand for exportation."

"WILL SALTIERE EXPLODE?"—There never was greater anxiety manifested by certain New York quidnuncs over the query adopted as our caption, than there is by the whigs over their friend Santa Anna, and the "how" he got back to Mexico. We believe they are really afraid if Old Rough and Ready should meet or catch him, it might go hard with their friends, the Mexicans, and their special pet, Santa Anna, whom they no doubt wished kept in safety at Havana. We should like to know if their great solicitude arises from the prospect of losing him as an "available" candidate for the Presidency, should Mexico finally agree to annex her territory to ours? No doubt they like him well enough; and as the Mexican States would be free, they might thus keep their allies—the abolitionists.

THE BIG GUN COLUMBUS was fired ninety three times the other day at Boston. It was loaded and elevated as follows:—25 lbs. of powder, and a shell of 182 lbs., containing 7 lbs. of powder, and fitted with a 36 seconds fuse, and elevated to thirty-five degrees, being four less than the elevation at which it may be fired. The shell fell at a distance of three and a half miles, buried itself five feet in a rocky bed, where it exploded, tearing out a pit about twelve feet in diameter at the top, and throwing out rocks as large as a hoghead. Such a shot taking effect upon a ship must destroy her. The length of the gun is but ten feet, the usual length of a long thirty-two pounder. Mr. Mexican will hardly like to take many of "Columbus's" pills, we reckon.

A NEW PLANET has been discovered by a French astronomer, Le Verrier. Its distance from the Sun is calculated to be about 32,000 millions of miles, and about 3,600 millions from the earth. Its distance from Uranus, whose motions it disturbs, is 150 millions. Its diameter is 50,000 miles. It would make in bulk, 250 such worlds as ours. It is greater, in bulk, than any body of the solar system except Jupiter and Saturn; the former being 95,000 miles in diameter, and the latter 79,000.

TO BE HANGED.—The *Corydon Gazette* states that a man named Fields was sentenced to be hung, at the late sitting of the Crawford circuit court, on the 15th of next month, for killing his mother. So it seems that juries will not always acquit under the new law. We do not remember the circumstances of this murder, but they must be very singular, no doubt.

"Our government made no sort of bargain with Santa Anna, and never counted upon his treachery." We are glad that the Washington "Union" has at last considered it proper and expedient to make the above declaration, in answer to a supposition of the London Chronicle. We suppose it will apply just as well to the scandalous charges of American as British torities.

When tears come not to the relief of the distressed, the doctors recommend a shaved head and cataplasms!—*Wabash Express.*
A "cataplasms" in plain English is a poultice; which would be a singular application to a shaved head. No "doctor" will ever find it necessary thus to prescribe to the Editor of the *Express*. His head is soft enough without poulticing! Try again, Dan.

L. Q. HOGGATT, of Bedford, has been promoted to the office of Assistant Quarter-master, in place of Col. Robt. Mitchell, of this State, deceased. The New Albany Daily Bulletin says the information is direct from the army. We hope it is correct, for Hoggatt is a first rate fellow.

We are glad to see that the Democratic party generally got Lt. Governor Dunning's communication. One or two whig papers only have had the manliness to do the same thing. Most of them are afraid of the truth.

"The very best apples we have tasted this season, were a lot sent us by our friend ELIJAH JAMES. They show what a man can do in the way of raising good fruit, if he but tries."

The War—More Troops.

We copy the following from the Washington Union of the 16th. It shows how entirely erroneous have been the speculations of the Washington "letter writers" on the subject.

CALL OF TROOPS.—We understand that requisitions have been sent out from the War Department, calling into the service of the United States nine additional regiments of volunteers to serve during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. They are asked for from the following States:
One regiment of infantry from Massachusetts;
One regiment of infantry from the State of New York;
One regiment of infantry from Pennsylvania;
One regiment of infantry from Virginia;
One regiment of infantry from North Carolina;
One regiment of infantry from South Carolina;
One regiment of infantry from Louisiana;
One regiment of infantry from Mississippi; and
One regiment of mounted men from Texas.

This important movement will show the federal press whether there is any faltering on the part of the administration, as they have been recently most recklessly charging. We have no time at the moment at which we receive the above interesting intelligence, to dwell upon this subject. It shows how little force there is in such suggestions as are thrown out in a Baltimore paper, that "it is believed that nothing decisive will be undertaken, either by our army or navy, before the next meeting of Congress."

THE FEDERAL WHIGS roll up their eyes in horror at the acts of our Generals in establishing a sort of civil government over the conquered territory of New Mexico and California. To be sure some of those very Generals are very good Whigs themselves, but no matter for that, so that the Administration can be reproached for their alleged errors. In relation to the matter the St. Louis "Union" justly observes:

The history of modern nations shows how frequently such powers have been exercised by victorious Generals, prior to treaty stipulations. Napoleon, when serving under the French Directory, as General of the army of Italy organized the Italian Republics. No nation complained that he had exceeded his powers. His course was correct, according to international law. Our Federal Government having exclusive jurisdiction in all such matters, may proceed to establish governments over conquered provinces; to organize what would have no government at all. What form of government shall be established, Congress can decide; but prior to Congressional action, the Executive, as Commander-in-Chief, must determine. He has chosen to give to New Mexico a quasi civil government, instead of imposing on it what it might be able to bear. He could have ordered that every question there should be settled by a Court Martial, instead of the "Superior Court" now established. He preferred the milder form—one the most consistent with the spirit of our institutions, and best calculated to win the attachment of the inhabitants. Those who object to his course in this respect, must do so on the ground that a Military Government ought to have been imposed on that Territory, or that we ought never to have taken up arms against Mexico. However specious their complaints, they can have no other basis on which to rest, and on that issue we are willing to accept the judgment of the country.

We presume that all admit that Judge Story is a good authority on this subject, and for the benefit of those who are in doubt, we extract the following from his commentaries:
"As the General Government possesses the right to acquire territory, either by conquest, or by treaty, it would seem to follow, as an inevitable consequence, that it possesses the power to govern what it has so acquired. The territory does not, when so acquired, become entitled to self-government, and it is not subject to the jurisdiction of any State. It must, consequently, be under the dominion and jurisdiction of the Union, or it would be without any government at all. In cases of conquest, the usage of the world is, if a nation is not wholly subdued, to consider the conquered territory as merely held by military occupation, until its fate shall be determined by a treaty of peace. But during this intermediate period it is exclusively subject to the government of the conqueror."

GOVERNMENT LOAN.—The federal press, east, has chuckled over the prospect that the government could not obtain the loan authorized by the last Congress for the prosecution of the war, because the bonds had determined to take no part of it. But it seems that plenty of money can be raised without the help of the *lands*, and on much better terms than those patriotic institutions are to be satisfied with. The Union of the 16th says:

The whole loan has been taken by various bidders at prices ranging from par to five per cent. premium for a small portion, but chiefly at par. The amount offered exceeded the sum of five millions. An additional bid was made for the whole at 1-100ths premium. This bid being an entirety, must have been taken for the whole, because it amounted, in the aggregate, to a larger sum than the sum of the whole, than the other bids combined, and would have realized a larger surplus to the government. The bidder, who resided in New York, being unknown here, and great doubts being entertained as to his ability to pay the money, in compliance with the wish of the Treasury, Mr. Young, the chief clerk of the Treasury Department, proceeded to New York to ascertain whether this bidder for the whole could pay the whole. He failed to do so after notice, when his bid was this time rejected, and the amount awarded to the other bidders. A few bidders for small amounts, whose letters did not arrive until the day succeeding the opening of the bid of course will lose their bids.

We make these explanations in order to put down at once that censorious and suspicious spirit which has found its way, upon this subject, into the National Intelligencer, and other allied, fault-finding, mischief-making prints. The loan is secured, and all duties are at an end.

The closing of the loan caused U. S. bonds to fly up to 107 in the New York market, with buyers, which, accrued interest off, is equal to 104 1/2 for the new stock.

FEDERAL WHIG CONSISTENCY.—The New Hampshire Patriot presents the following extracts from the proceedings of a whig convention in the first Congressional district in that State, which was recently held to nominate a whig candidate for Congress. They exhibit the principles and the consistency of federal whiggery to a T.

Extract from report on the Mexican war:
"Thousands of men are withdrawn from their proper avocations, leaving their families unprotected and uncared for; multitudes are slain or sent home wounded; towns and cities are carried by assault and captured with all the ferocity of the soldiers excited TO MADNESS BY THE RESISTANCE OF THE INHABITANTS. Who can tell the misery of such scenes?—Whose imagination is vivid enough to depict the suffering of a city carried by assault, where every house is a garrison—and where each such garrison is captured by an INFANTRY SOLDIER!"

Resolution on Mexican war:
"5. Resolved, That as much as we deplore the Mexican war, we are proud of the heroism and good conduct of the officers and men engaged in it; that Gen. Taylor from the time of his first engagement with the enemy on the banks of the Rio Grande to the capture of Monterrey, has shown that he possesses all the qualities of a valiant soldier and an accomplished officer; and that to him and to Gen. Worth, under him, the EYES OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN ARE TURNED WITH ADMIRATION AND GRATITUDE."

General Cass has accepted an invitation to deliver an address in the city of Boston, on the 25th inst., in Salem on the 29th, and in Lowell on the 27th.

They burnt some powder at Terre Haute over the recent Whig victories, but it seems, according to the Courier, that they had to extend the hat to Louisville to help pay for it.

Are not the Cincinnati sold to the Dutch?—*Philad. "Native" Eagle.*
If they are, their churches will not suffer in the sale.—*Cincinnati Advertiser.*
Good!

Oregon Railroad Meeting.

Notice having been previously given that Mr. ASA WHITNEY, the projector of a Railroad from Lake Michigan to Oregon, wished to address the citizens of Indianapolis in relation to said road, a large number assembled at the Court House, on Saturday night the 21st inst. The meeting was organized, on motion of NATHANIEL BOLTON, Esq., by calling Hon. Wm. J. PEARLEE to the chair, and appointing JOHN D. DEFREES, Secretary.

The chairman introduced Mr. WHITNEY to the audience. His address was listened to with much interest, and at its conclusion, on motion of Judge E. M. HUNTINGTON, the most sincere Mr. WHITNEY was voted of thanks for the information derived from it.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:
Resolved, That as citizens of Indiana, we feel a deep interest in the success of Mr. ASA WHITNEY's project of a Railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific ocean, and that we earnestly recommend the enterprise to the favorable consideration and immediate action of Congress.

Resolved, That the Atlantic and Pacific oceans ought to be connected, by a Railroad communication, at the earliest practicable period, and that the Pacific lands are a national fund properly applicable to this great national object, and that the plan of Mr. Whitney is plain, simple, and feasible, and we recommend its immediate adoption.

Resolved, That the officers of this meeting be instructed to forward to the Senate and House of Representatives of Congress, copies of the proceedings of this meeting, also to forward copies to each of the Senators and Representatives from the State of Indiana.

Resolved, That the Legislature of this State in its Legislative capacity be requested to recommend this great subject to the speedy and favorable consideration and action of Congress.
Resolved, That a committee of ten be appointed to prepare a memorial to Congress on this subject, and to procure signatures thereto.
The chairman announced the following committee, viz:—Governor Whitcomb, Judge Huntington, J. F. Chapman, John D. Defrees, M. G. Bright, C. E. Clark, Samuel Taylor, Judge Morrison, James Blake and Nicholas McGee.

Resolved, That the editors of the city papers be requested to publish these proceedings.
W. J. PEARLEE, CHM.
JOHN D. DEFREES, Secy.

JUSTICE.—Our government has always given pensions to officers and men wounded in the public service, and pensions to the widows of the officers who died in such service, in peace or war. But we believe that it has never given pensions to the widows of private soldiers or sailors who died in such service. Such pensions are due; for officers and men alike encounter the hazards of the service, and are therefore equally entitled to national gratitude, and to the distinctions between them in the exhibition of such gratitude, are too aristocratic for a democratic republic. Such public consideration is not *gratitude*, but *justice*. The sufferer has a right to public support, for himself, or for those whom he leaves behind him while perishing for the public.

We therefore call on every citizen to call upon every legislator in the Union, and upon all their readers, to join us in demanding of Congress, pensions to the widows, and if they have none, to the children, of all the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers and sailors who died in the Mexican war; the pensions to the children ceasing on their reaching the age of 21 years.

We also call on every citizen to call upon every legislator in the Union, and upon all their readers, to join us in demanding of Congress, pensions to the widows, and if they have none, to the children, of all the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers and sailors who died in the Mexican war; the pensions to the children ceasing on their reaching the age of 21 years. We also call on every citizen to call upon every legislator in the Union, and upon all their readers, to join us in demanding of Congress, pensions to the widows, and if they have none, to the children, of all the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers and sailors who died in the Mexican war; the pensions to the children ceasing on their reaching the age of 21 years. We also call on every citizen to call upon every legislator in the Union, and upon all their readers, to join us in demanding of Congress, pensions to the widows, and if they have none, to the children, of all the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers and sailors who died in the Mexican war; the pensions to the children ceasing on their reaching the age of 21 years.

WHIG GEMPLES.—The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger administers the following pointed rebuke to the grumblers and fault-finders in relation to the prosecution of the war. Of course it applies only to the Whigs:

As to the charge, "that this war has not been vigorously prosecuted," it can only be made by a people accustomed to sail under high pressure. We are not yet six months at war, and have already taken the western wing of the enemy's territory, equal in extent to the original thirteen States of this Union, and as on the other side, about to take possession of the last key to the very heart of his possessions. We blockade all his ports, destroy all his commerce, and beat him wherever we meet him. Yet all these things which astonish Europe, and excite the jealousy of the mightiest powers in Christendom, are looked upon as unsatisfactory; because, forsooth, we have not yet entered the capital of Mexico! We want to do everything by steam and magnetic telegraph, and it must be cheap in the bargain, or we are sure to grumble. One of our officers, (Fremon't) is in pursuit of a fugitive Governor, another, (Kearney) crosses the Alps, the others fight as if each were to be rewarded with the Presidency, raw volunteers take batteries at the point of the bayonet, yet with all this we are vexed that the Mexicans are not yet entirely annihilated!

We feel the war merely as an administration measure; while the Mexicans are invaded, driven from town to town with immense slaughter, cut off from all intercourse with foreign nations, without commerce, navigation, or the means of procuring even the necessary articles of life, distracted in their councils, a prey to internal dissension, and, yet, with all this, their papers bear themselves with more patriotism, and exhibit a greater devotion to the honor of their country, than some of our own!

THE RANCHEROS.—These constitute a principal portion of the Mexican army. Rowan Hardin, of Kentucky, (who is in the army in Mexico,) writes to his father as follows:

"The Rancheros are the people who live on farms—they are poor soldiers. By the laws of their Government they are not allowed to have arms at home, and consequently do not understand the use of them. These people are not cowardly, but unskilled in the use of arms, and without confidence in their rulers. Gen. Taylor esteems them a brave people, but they are not effective in battle because of their ignorance of the use of arms. Their defeat by General Taylor on the Rio Grande, with such odds in their favor, has destroyed all confidence in themselves, and they fight with no other expectation than to be whipped; but let this war last twelve months longer, and rest assured they will prove an enemy no longer to be despised."

A PRIZE AND A BARGAIN.—The New York Courier and Enquirer of the 14th inst., gives the following development:

"Immediately preceding the election, we received a letter from a highly respectable source in Columbia county, which asserted that Mr. Young had promised to pardon the murderers of Steele, and all the anti-slavery men in prison, if elected governor. We declined giving it publicly. Since then, we have received another letter from the same gentleman, from which we make the following extract:

"I repeat what I wrote before the election, that Gov. Wright having positively refused to grant any more pardons if re-elected, Mr. Young was applied to, and unanimously promised, if elected, to grant the pardons asked for."

"NO FICTION."—The reason that "truth is stranger than fiction," is because there is not half so much of it in the world.

Capital Punishment—A Card.

To the Editors of the *State Sentinel*:
GENTLEMEN:—As you have requested that we should suspend the further discussion of the subject of Capital Punishment for the present, on account of the crowded state of your columns during the session of the Legislature, I shall cheerfully comply. It is true that I would like to continue the discussion during the session, that I might bring the subject directly before the members, and address my arguments to them personally; yet under all the circumstances, it is perhaps better that that should not be done at present. It should, perhaps, first be fully argued before the people. Your suggestion, therefore, of a brief respite, will, at once, be yielded to by me, being very thankful for the space heretofore allowed me in your columns, and the offer of the use of them again in the Spring. I therefore, respectfully take leave of you and the readers of your valuable paper till that time, when I expect to renew my acquaintances with you and them, and resume my argument, at the meantime I hope they will not forget what I have heretofore said. Very respectfully,
Yours, &c., S.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.—Political economists, as well as those who made no pretensions to a knowledge of that science, until recently were very much deluded with what was called the "balance of trade" between nations. They have been just as much mistaken about "the rates of exchange," and have been led into very absurd conclusions in consequence, as the following extract from Hunt's Merchant's Magazine will very clearly show:

The current quotations as 7, 8 or 9 per cent. premium for exchange on England, which we see in the newspapers, do not mean a premium on the par value of the pound sterling, but on a fictitious valuation of the pound which prevailed in this country a century ago, when the States were colonies. For example, the pound sterling, or gold sovereign, is to-day worth \$4.85 in Wall street, which is about the par value as established by Congress. A thousand of them would be worth \$4,850; the current rates of exchange on England, in Wall street, which is now about 9 per cent. premium, as the phrase is, for bills payable in London or Liverpool. But this premium is not on \$4.85, the par of the value of the pound, nor yet of the pound, nor yet of the pound sterling, but it is on \$1.14, the old colonial value of the pound. For example, A B buys a bill of exchange for £1,000 on England, from C D, at 9 per cent. premium; he pays \$5,414 for it. Suppose he gave a thousand dollars for it, at current value, there would be a balance in his favor; so that, in reality, the rate of exchange on England, instead of being 9 per cent. against us, is in our favor, because bills can be obtained cheaper than gold. Of course, then, there is no object in sending gold to England. Hence the absurdity of this ideal mode of dealing in exchanges and newspapers, which is still kept up by our merchants and newspapers.

AN ABSENT-MINDED PROTECTIONIST.—The *Express*, speaks, in its review of the market, as follows:

"The usual quarter day for making up accounts by the Banks, passed off without any notice, either by the Banks or the public. This is a strong indication of the abundance of money. The present course of trade and the active demand for produce, is calculated to make the money market perfectly easy. The export demand takes every surplus bushel of grain and barrel of flour that offers. A brisk foreign market of high prices, will enrich the country beyond all calculation. Instead of any drain for specie, if the shipments continue, large amounts must flow into the country."

INDIANA DEMOCRAT—STATE SENTINEL.—The *Indiana Democrat* has been discussing, and Mr. Spain, its junior Editor and partner has become associated with the *Chapmans* in the business of "publishing and printing." This is rather an unusual state of affairs, but will be none the less gratifying to the democracy of the State. Though the "Democrat" was an ably conducted paper, it did some good service in the cause, particularly in the campaign for Governor, yet we always thought its establishment premature and unnecessary. But, it was our intention to say something about the *Indiana Democrat* in the *State Sentinel*. This will be issued as usual three times a week, during the sitting of the Legislature, at the low rate of \$1.00 per copy for the Session. It will be as large a sheet as the present weekly. Those wishing the earliest and fullest Legislative reports will do well to subscribe for it, and besides the proceedings, it will contain general news of all subjects, and the *Chapmans* can't beat at this part of the business. The *Indiana Democrat* has distinguished the *State Sentinel*. We shall be happy to receive subscriptions from our friends, if any of them want the *Sentinel* this winter.—*Rushville Jacksonian.*

REPORTED SURRENDER OF CHIHUAHUA.—The *Lexington*, Missouri, *Express*, of the 3d inst., says:—

"A gentleman of this city informs us that he perceived a letter, a day or two since, which had been received in Camden, giving the particulars of the surrender of Chihuahua to the forces under General Wool. The army, it seems, entered the city without resistance; the American flag was saluted by the citizens, and after a few hours had elapsed, the American soldiers were invited to partake of a splendid dinner, which had been prepared for them by the Chihuahuans. That, we should say, was rather a new mode of capturing an enemy's town."

AN OLD FELLOW'S TEMPLE.—The *Louisville Courier* gives the following account of the dimensions of the old Temple recently dedicated to Old Fellowship in that city. "The Temple is three stories in height, is of beautiful architecture, and is a superb and commanding appearance. It is built on a lot of ground 67 feet front, and 210 feet deep. The building itself is 50 feet front, and 100 feet deep; the first story is 11 feet in height, the second story is 14 feet—entire height of the building 60 feet. In the first story are 100 rooms, two of which are occupied as stores, two as offices and two as school-rooms. In the second story are five rooms—one large saloon 74 by 47 feet, two dressing rooms for ladies, and two for gentlemen. In the third story are two large rooms, handsomely carpeted and furnished, with all the necessary fixtures and conveniences. The cost of the ground was \$10,000, and of the building about \$13,000—making the total cost \$23,000. The whole has been built and completed under the management of P. G. Master J. B. Hinkle, who has performed his arduous duties in such a manner as to command the warmest commendations of the Order."

NEW JERSEY.—The Newark Advertiser gives complete official returns of the votes for Congressmen at the late election in that State. The whole number of Whig votes polled in the State was 28,711; Democratic 26,663; Native, 1,431. Whig majority over Democratic, 2,048. Over Democrats and Natives, 617. Whole number of votes, including rejected, 57,746; do in 1844, 76,307. Less in 1846, 18,461.

NORTH CAROLINA.—The Legislature of North Carolina, now in session, will probably make choice of U. S. Senators; one to succeed Mr. Mangum, Whig, whose term expires on the 4th of March next, and the other to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Haywood, Dem. Two Whigs will be chosen; and it is said Mr. Geo. E. Badger, for a short time Secretary of the Navy under President Tyler, will be one of them.

DELAWARE.—A letter in the Tribune from Wilmington, Del., says the official majority for William Tharp, Dem. for Governor, in the whole State, is 136, and for John W. Houston, Whig, for Congress, 147. There is a Whig majority of one in each House, which secures the election of a Whig U. S. Senator in place of Thomas Clayton, Whig.

MICHIGAN.—The new Senate will stand 2 Whigs to 20 Democrats; House about 15 Whigs to 51 Democrats. Last year 1 Whig Senator and 16 Whigs Representatives. The Dem. Congress ticket elected (three members) by an aggregate majority of 2500.

A family near Auburn, N. Y., a few days ago, says a Rochester paper, came near dying from poison, having drunk the tea made from water, into which a huge spider had fallen and been boiled.

From the Washington Union.

Extracts from Mexican Papers.
The same vessel which brought the despatches to the Navy Department, brings with it also a file of the Vera Cruz Locomotor from the 9th to the 19th of October inclusive.

A decree with a long preamble, was issued by the government on the 2d of October, requiring from all holders of towns property within the republic, whether belonging to individuals, convents, societies, or institutions, a contribution equivalent to a month's rent, to be devoted exclusively to the support of the war, to be paid in four monthly instalments. Tenants and sub-tenants are required to contribute a sum equal to the fourth part of a month's rent.

The Monitor of the 31st of October says: "We know that the Secretary of the Treasury has proposed to the venerable clergy of this diocese a mode by which they can contribute abundant means for the support of the war, without diminishing in any manner the value of ecclesiastical property, and without prejudice to the rights of individuals. The Secretary attended to-day, at the ecclesiastical session, a deliberation upon this important matter; but it appears that the venerable clergy postponed their decision, and that they are not impressed with the urgent necessity of the government for great resources, in order to save the independence and nationality of Mexico."

The Monitor of the 12th of October says: "It is known in a positive manner that the government has received proposals for a foreign loan of twenty millions of dollars, and that the offer is based substantially upon a mortgage of the property of the clergy, without involving any extravagant demands or irritating pretensions."
The Republicano of the 13th of October says: "We know that Great Britain and France have agreed solemnly to press upon the United States the acceptance of their mediation in the differences which exist between them and us, for the purpose of putting an end to the war which they have so unjustly and iniquitously commenced."

If any conference is to be put in the balancing articles in their newspapers, it would seem as if voluntary contributions to the government are increasing, and public spirit awakening among the people. But there are other indications to the contrary. The committee appointed in Vera Cruz to raise contributions, have reported that in consequence of the deserted state of the city, and cessation of business, they do not expect to be able to raise more than \$2,921 per month.

A number of ladies in Jalapa had offered their services to the government to make clothing for the soldiers, &c.

Ampudia's official report of the killed and wounded at Monterrey, is 5 officers, and 117 men killed; 23 officers and 221 men wounded.

A letter from a citizen of Monterrey, dated at Saltillo, September 27th, abuses Ampudia, and attributes to him individually the loss of Monterrey. The writer says that Ampudia begged, and crawled on the ground in order to save his own carcass; that after the capitulation, he carried his infamy so far as to invite Taylor and his officers to a banquet, and that he held the bride of the "Yankee" horses while they mounted. He says that the women, boys, and people laid shouted execrations upon the coward as he quitted the place.

A committee appointed by some of the citizens of Mexico addressed a letter to Gomez Pedraza requesting that he and Gomez Farinas would meet in public on the principal balcony of the National Palace, and embrace each other in token of reconciliation. Pedraza in his reply scolds the proposition as childish; says that it would draw upon them the ridicule of the wisest of Mexico, and that ridicule is a terrible weapon for either individuals or public bodies to encounter; that Farinas and himself are men of mature age, and Mexicans should expect something like good sense from them.

Fifty wealthy individuals in the city of Mexico had agreed to contribute jointly a loan of two hundred thousand dollars for war expenses, of which one hundred and seventy-six thousand had been paid. Seventy thousand of it was sent to Santa Anna at San Luis Potosi, besides what was spent for ammunition, transportation, &c., for the army of the north.

The government had called for exact statements of damage done to public and private property during the war "the day being not distant when we may exact indemnity for the injuries which that government has done to the property of the United States; has caused it?" It had also advertised for proposals for lighting the city of Mexico with gas. [The day when we will have to pay our indemnity to Mexico for the damage which our government has done will happen on the day of the Greek Kalends. It will come on the same day when Santa Anna is to gather laurels on the banks of the Sabine, (as Le bonnet), and our own troops will cease to drink the waters of the Rio Grande, as Ampudia was silly enough to threaten.]

OPERATIONS OF CAPTAIN FREMONT IN UPPER CALIFORNIA.—Under this head is published in the Washington Union a long letter from Senator Benton to the President of the United States, designed more especially to disprove the accusation officially made against Captain F. (who is Mr. Benton's son-in-law) of "having come into California with a body of United States troops, under the pretext of a scientific expedition, but in reality to excite the Americans settled in that province to an insurrection against the Mexican government."

The whole letter is interesting, but we are compelled to limit ourselves to the following extracts, from which it will be seen that the gallant Captain had in fact revolutionized the country, before Commodore Sloat took possession in the name of the U. S. States. The alternative was presented to him of victory or death, and he chose the former.

At the middle of May, Capt. Fremont, in pursuance of his design to reach Oregon, and return by the Columbia and Missouri through the Northern Pass in the Rocky mountains, had arrived at the great Tihamah Lake, in the edge of the Oregon territory, when he found his further progress completely barred by the double obstructions of hostile Indians, whom Castro had excited against him, and lofty mountains, covered with deep and falling snows, which made the middle of May in that elevated region the same as the middle of winter. These were the difficulties and dangers in front. Behind, and on the north bank of the San Francisco bay, at the military post of Sonoma, was General Castro, assembling troops with the avowed intention of attacking both Fremont's party, and all the American settlers, against whom the Indians had already been excited. Thus, his passage hither, and his return, were equally impossible. He was surrounded by impassable snows and mountains—hemmed in by savage Indians who were thinning the ranks of his little party, menaced by a General at the head of ten-fold force of all arms—the American settlers in California marked out for destruction on a false accusation of meditating a revolt under his insurrection—his men and horses suffering from fatigue, cold and famine—and after the most anxious deliberation upon all the dangers of his position, and upon all the responsibilities of his conduct, Captain Fremont determined to turn upon his pursuers, and fight them handsomely, without regard to numbers, and to the safety of his party and the American settlers, by overturning the Mexican government in California. It was on the 6th day of June that he came to this determination; and, the resolution being once taken, all half-way measures were discarded, and a rapid execution of the plan was commenced. On the 11th of June, a supply of 200 horses for Castro's troops, on the way to his camp, conducted by an officer and fourteen men, were surprised at daylight, and the whole captured—the men and officers being released, and the horses retained for American use. On the 15th, at daybreak, the military post at Sonoma (the point of rendezvous, and intended headquarters) was surprised and taken, with nine pieces of brass cannon, two hundred and fifty stand of muskets, other arms and ammunition, with several officers, and a large number of men. The brother, Captain Vallejo, Colonel Greathouse and others; all of whom were detained and confined as prisoners.

Capt. Fremont then repaired to the American settlements on the Rio de los Angeles to obtain assistance, and receiving an express from the little garrison of 14 in Sonoma, he was preparing to cross the bay and the bay of San Francisco and attack them with a large force, when on the afternoon of the 23d of June with ninety mounted riflemen, and travelling day and night, arrived at 1 o'clock in the morning of the 24th at Sonoma—eighty miles distance. The Vanguard of Castro's force had crossed the bay—a squadron of seventy dragoons, commanded by *de la Torre*—which was attacked and defeated by twenty Americans, with the loss of two killed and some wounded on the part of the Mexicans, and no injury to themselves—*de la Torre* barely escaping with the loss of his transport boats, and spiking six pieces of artillery. In the meantime two of Captain Fremont's men, going as an express, were captured by *de la Torre's* men, and being bound to trees, were cut to pieces alive with knives in return for which, three of *de la Torre's* men, being taken, were instantly shot. The north side of the bay, being taken, was now cleared of the enemy, and on the 26th day of July, Capt. Fremont called the Americans together at Sonoma, addressed them upon the dangers of their situation, and recommended a declaration of independence, and

war upon Castro and his troops, as the only means of safety. The independence was immediately declared, and war proclaimed.

A few days afterwards, an officer from Commodore Sloat brought the intelligence that the American flag was hoisted at Monterey—an example which was immediately followed wherever the news flew. The pursuit and defeat of Castro was then the only remaining enterprise. He had fled south towards the numerous Mexican towns and settlements beyond Monterey, with his four or five hundred men; and, Capt. Fremont, leaving some fifty men in garrison, set out with one hundred and sixty mounted riflemen in the pursuit, when he received instructions from Commodore Sloat to march upon Monterey. He did so, and found Commodore Stockton in command, approving the pursuit of Castro, and aiding it by